

# Unit 3: Subjects of Sentences

## THE PROBLEM

*Is beautiful today.*

**Exercise 1:** Look at the words in boxes and answer the questions below.

1. They **ran** to the park.
2. She **cooked** some spaghetti for dinner.
3. Kenji **speaks** three languages.

**Question 1:** What do all the words in boxes have in common?

- a) They show action.
- b) They are things that people can see and touch.
- c) They are types of feeling.

**Question 2:** What do we call the boxed words?

- a) nouns
- b) pronouns
- c) verbs

**Exercise 2:** Look at the sentence and answer the questions below.

Omar took his TV to the repair shop.

**Question 1:** What three things can we see and touch in this sentence?

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_

**Question 2:** Are these words called nouns or verbs? \_\_\_\_\_

**Question 3:** Which word shows action? \_\_\_\_\_

**Question 4:** Is that word a noun or a verb? \_\_\_\_\_

**Exercise 3:**    1) In each sentence, circle the noun.  
                  2) Underline the verb.  
                  3) Answer the questions.

1. Roberto left early.

**Question 1:** Who left? \_\_\_\_\_

2. His computer worked slowly.

**Question 2:** What worked? \_\_\_\_\_

3. The cat sat quietly.

**Question 3:** What sat? \_\_\_\_\_

**Question 4:** What do we call the nouns in the sentences above?

- a) subjects of the sentences
- b) verbs of the sentences

**Exercise 4:**    1) In each sentence, circle the subject.  
                  2) Underline the verb.  
                  3) Answer the questions.

1. The dishes fell on the floor.

**Question 1:** What fell?

- a) dishes
- b) floor

**Question 2:** What is the subject of the sentence?

- a) The subject of the sentence is *dishes* because it tells us what fell.
- b) The subject of the sentence is *floor* because it tells us what fell.

2. Steve drove his car.

**Question 3:** Who drove?

- a) Steve
- b) his car

**Question 4:** What is the subject of the sentence?

- a) The subject of the sentence is *car* because it tells us what Steve drove.
- b) The subject of the sentence is *Steve* because it tells us who drove.

**3.** His father bought a pizza for dinner.

**Question 5:** What is the subject of the sentence?

- a) The subject of the sentence is *dinner* because it tells us what bought a pizza.
- b) The subject of the sentence is *pizza* because it tells us what bought a pizza.
- c) The subject of the sentence is *father* because it tells us who bought a pizza.

**4.** Tomas is in love with Mimi.

**Question 6:** What is the subject of the sentence?

- a) The subject of the sentence is *Tomas* because it tells who is in love.
- b) The subject of the sentence is *Mimi* because it tells us the name of Tomas's lover.

**Exercise 5:**    \_\_\_ 1) Circle the subjects.  
                  \_\_\_ 2) Underline the verbs.  
                  \_\_\_ 3) Give the reason for your choice of each subject.

1. He slept until noon.

Reason: "He" tells us who slept.

2. Sam got an interesting haircut.

Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Amy was happy with her score.

Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

4. They found the money in the closet.

Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

**Exercise 6:** Look at the sentences below.

- \_\_\_1) If the sentence has a subject, write *OK*. (3 sentences are *OK*, including Sentence 2.)  
\_\_\_2) If the sentence needs a subject, write a correct sentence.

1. Went to the store.

*Tom went to the store.*

2. My boss wrote a report.

*OK.*

3. Gave me a ticket.

4. Were late for our airplane.

5. The dog dug a hole in the yard.

6. Stood in line for the movie.

7. Got an expensive car for his birthday.

8. Is a beautiful day.

9. Ate her dinner at 9 p.m.

10. The passengers are in their seats now.

**Exercise 7:** Write *S* above the subject of each sentence.

*S*

1. Jane read her book on the couch in the living room for two hours.
2. My bicycle fell in the bushes because of the wind.
3. I got a phone call at midnight.
4. The artist painted a picture of the snow-covered mountains.

**Exercise 8:** 1) Fill in the blanks in these sentences.  
2) Write *S* above the subject of each sentence.

1. Last night, \_\_\_\_\_ watched TV for two hours.
2. My \_\_\_\_\_ played video games on her \_\_\_\_\_.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ talked to his \_\_\_\_\_ on the phone.

**Exercise 9:** Look at the subjects in these sentences and answer the question below.

*S*   *S*

1. My father he is a doctor at a hospital in Seattle.
2. Good books they are important for our education.

**Question:** Are these sentences correct?

- a) Yes, we can have two subjects, like these, in a sentence.
- b) No, we should have only one of these words as the subject.

**Exercise 10:** Write the 2 sentences in Exercise 9 correctly.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Exercise 11:** \_\_\_\_1) Fill in the blanks as your teacher reads the sentences.  
\_\_\_\_2) Circle the subjects and underline the verbs.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ showed us a great \_\_\_\_\_.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ is the president of a company.

3. The newspaper \_\_\_\_\_ a picture of \_\_\_\_\_ in it.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ came to my \_\_\_\_\_ around noon.

**Exercise 12:** \_\_\_\_1) Write a paragraph with 5 sentences or more about the topic below.  
\_\_\_\_2) Write *S* above the subjects.

**Topic:** This is what my \_\_\_\_\_ did on a recent vacation.  
(family/friend/other)